The French are all critical, turbulent: they are real weathervanes at the mercy of the winds; but this fault is free from any factor of self-interest, and that is their best excuse.

81st. With St. John of Acre captured, I could have reached Constantinople and India; I would have changed the face of the world!

April 1st. I can count thirty-one conspiracies on official record, without speaking of those that remain unknown; others invent such things, I have carefully concealed all I was able to. The risk to my life was a great one, especially between Marengo and the attempt of Georges and the affair of the Duke d'Enghien.

llth. Talleyrand's face is so impassive that it is impossible to interpret it; Lannes and Murat used to say of him jokingly that if, while he was speaking with you, some one kicked him from behind, his face would show nothing.

Fouch6 required intrigues just as he did food. He intrigued at all times, in all places, in all manners, with all people. He was always in everybody's boots.

(O'Meara: Which is the best of the French generals ?)

It is difficult to say, but it seems to me that it is Suchet; formerly it was Massena, but he may be considered a dead man. Suchet, Clausel, and Gerard are the best French generals, in my opinion. I made my generals out of mud.

18th. In my misfortunes, I sought an asylum, and instead I have found contempt, ill-treatment, and insult. Shortly after I came on board (Admiral Cockburn's) ship, as I did not wish to sit for two or three hours guzzling down wine to make myself drunk, I got up from table, and walked out upon deck. While I was going out.